

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION 1401 K STREET, NW, SUITE 200 WASHINGTON, DC 20005 T 202.772.5600 F 202.772.5602 WWW.DEMOCRATICGOVERNORS.ORG

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius Kansas Chair

Gov. Joe Manchin III West Virginia Vice Chair & Chair-elect May 22, 2007

President George W. Bush The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

When Democratic governors wrote to you about high gasoline prices in April 2004, prices were nearing \$2.00 per gallon – a price most consumers would happily pay today. This summer in some parts of the country, prices are expected to double that amount.

Democratic governors have a history of standing up for consumers and are taking action to ease the pain at the pump. We are investigating price gouging, investing in alternative sources of energy, and rolling back oil and gas subsidies. We support corporate profitability – but not on the backs of working families and not at the obscene levels we have seen in recent months.

We urge you to join us in pressing oil companies to invest their profits in fixing refinery capacity issues that have become an annual foil for swiftly escalating prices. Further, we call on you to work with Congress to lower gas prices – support federal legislation defining and penalizing gas price gouging and order your Administration's agencies to go after any anti-trust or commodities violations.

Democratic governors know that the long-term prescription for high gas prices is to achieve energy security by reducing our dependence on foreign oil. We are consistently and innovatively leading the way by promoting alternative sources of energy, encouraging conservation, and demanding efficiency.

We are encouraged by your comments this month on energy independence, and we invite you to look at our states to see how we are getting results.

Talk is much cheaper than gas prices. Now is the time for action. Together, we can make America more prosperous, more secure, and less vulnerable to the pain at the pump.

Sincerely,

Governor Kathleen Sebelius

Kansas Chair

Governor Jon S. Corzine

New Jersey Federal Liaison Governor Joe Manchin III

West Virginia

Vice Chair & Chair-elect

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Michigan Policy Chair

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Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Louisiana

Governor Ted Strickland Ohio

Governor Phil Bredesen Tennessee